

Monthly Character Trait Parent Preview

ATTENTIVENESS

The Character Parent Preview is a monthly letter designed to help parents teach Biblical character qualities to their children by giving you a preview of what KK4C will be teaching your child(ren) in the karate class.

Each month a different character quality is presented with suggestions for Bible lessons and projects. The length of time you spend teaching these principles to your children each day is not nearly as important as your sincerity and consistency.

Praising Character

Praising achievement often teaches that results are the only things that count. The truth is that both character and achievement are important. Here are some points to consider when you praise character.

- Name the character quality when you praise
- Do not compare children. Comparisons build some up by putting others down.
- Avoid absolutes like saying Mary is “always attentive”
- Remember, not all children have equal access to mental and physical achievement, but all children have equal access to character

Being Attentive is Worth The Effort.

Memorization test given during the last week of every month in class!

- 1) **DEFINITION:** ATTENTIVENESS is showing the worth of a person by giving full concentration to his or her words
- 2) **I WILL’S:** (Tiny Tigers just 3, all others all 5)
 - a. **I will look at people when they speak to me.**
 - b. **I will ask questions when I do not understand.**
 - c. **I will sit or stand up straight.**
 - d. **I will not draw attention to myself.**
 - e. **I will keep my eyes, ears, hands, feet, and mouth from distractions.**
- 3) **SCRIPTURE:** “Therefore we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it.” (Hebrews 2:1)
- 4) **Earn the Character Card by demonstrating each of the 5 “I will’s” at home. Click [here](#) to purchase.**



How to Demonstrate Attentiveness

to God

- Start you day with the Lord (**Psalm 5:3; Mark 1:35**)
- Listen to the Word of God (**Revelation 1:3**)
- Remove thoughts that distract from God (**Romans 12:2; Philippians 4:8**)

to Parents

- Honor the presence of your parents (**Deuteronomy 5:16**)
- Look at the faces of your parents
- Look into the eyes of your parents
- Remember the words of your parents (**Proverbs 6:20-22**)
- Let them know where you are at all times

in Church and school

- Sit up and lean slightly forward
- Look at the speaker / teacher
- Sit as close to the front as possible

A Word to 'Us' Parents

If we as parents even lovingly provide our children with material things, food and shelter and medical needs and perhaps even a college education and yet fail to teach them Christ-like and Christ-centered character, have we not fallen short in our parental responsibilities before God?

In the scheme of all things how high is the importance of Christ-like character training in our time spent with our kids? How does it actually look in your family? How often are we discussing the things of God and the Gospel with our children? Do you know how to turn any activity into a discussion about Christ and your child's need for Him? Let's all make it more of a priority and if we do not know how let's seek out someone who does to teach us.

I am sure you have noticed, Godly character does not come naturally to our children or to us – it needs to be taught and wrought by God's Spirit through His Holy Word for the sake of Christ! **And we as parents are the means of grace by which God employs to teach our kids.**

We do not need to teach our children how to steal, lie or how to have a temper tantrum; but we do need to teach them self-control, diligence, humility, gentleness, kindness, deference, truthfulness, obedience, forgiveness, boldness.

Most likely biblical character training is not being taught in your child's school. But wouldn't it be great if our children could learn punctuality and philosophy? Sensitivity and science? Loyalty and languages? Gratefulness and geometry? Meekness and mathematics? Believe it or not, your children can make it through life without trigonometry and algebra; but they won't make it without character. And most importantly, they must treasure Christ for eternal life.

Even if they are taught these things at church, we as parents should not hand our kids over to someone else for this training. They need to be taught this in their home. They need to see it lived out by us, their parents. And when we fail, they need to see us asking for forgiveness from them and God and repenting.

We at KK4C also thank you for the privilege to partner with you to invest in the Christ-like character development of your sons and daughters - to back you up and support you in your training your children in the discipline and instruction of the Lord. We do not want to take your place, but we thank God and appreciate the opportunity to partner with you.

Our lifestyle and priorities with the time and money God has given us to manage evidences what we hunger and thirst after. Is it 'The good life, money, or success'? Be aware that our children will be greatly influenced by our value system and our goals, desires, and aspirations.

Let us all pray to be used by God's spirit to be the greatest influence for Jesus Christ upon the life of our children as their parents. Everyday let our children be confronted with the reality of our commitment to Jesus Christ. Our home is where we and others can discover the reality of our spirituality. If you want to see how an animal really behaves, you don't go to the zoo or circus where they are on display or perform, you go to its natural habitat - it's day by day environment. If you want to find out what a Christian is really like, where do you go? You don't go to the Church! No, you must go to the home. If you want to find out the sincerity of a man's or woman's commitment to Jesus Christ and to following Biblical principles, you don't ask his or her Pastor or Church leaders, you need to ask his or her spouse and children.

To be continued...